

EQUESTRIAN SPORT'S GREAT FASCINATION

Polo and Steeplechasing, Like Aviation, Are Only for Skilled and Daring.

RIDING NATIONAL ASSET

Suitable Horsemanship for Men, Women and Children Discussed by an Expert.

By MARGUERITE F. BAYLESS.

Sports are somewhat similar to the children of a family. It is a bit unwise to compare them, and open favoritism may lead to disaster. Nearly everybody who is interested at all is a champion of one sport over all others, and is apt to regard it with the partiality of a parent for an only child, notwithstanding which most genuine sport lovers, however attached to a personal specialty, look with sympathetic interest at excellence outside their own line. Cases of this kind are not infrequently followed with enthusiasm by outsiders, but in this twentieth century we have three supreme sports whose fascination never fades. They are polo, steeplechasing and aviation. None of this trio is or can become one of the universal pastimes of all kinds of people. They are not like croquet. Nevertheless the fact that they are only for the daring and the skilled in no way lessens the attraction of any one of them. Might a few bystanders and a few who have been willing to leave Trepassy Bay with Hawker, yet who was not excited over his departure?

Of this trilogy of kindly athletics the most essential sports of horsemanship. The more that people generally know about horses and riding the more will they be appreciated and the more will they be enjoyed. A nation with thousands of people who ride more or less regularly and well has naturally better horses and horsemen for polo and racing in time of peace and for cavalry in time of war than has the nation whose average riders are only a few hundreds in number. The cavalry that routed Germany at the Marne, men and horses, were bred in England's hunting fields.

Riding Repays Rider.

Of course, horsemanship is like every other phase of life, and the sports of the many who have some interest in each only the few become champions. But it is doubtful if the average devotee of any sport derives more amusement and profit from his pastime than does the average rider of horses.

Such articles as this and most longer treatments of the subject, are not intended for the ordinary user of horses, although, by the way, experts usually reach each other's opinions with an interest and frigate to a fashion in which is universal among the top notchers in all sports, and even the best sometimes pick up a hint in the exchange of ideas. Horses are one subject that nobody ever knows all about.

One of the first topics to be touched is one that in the present condition of public opinion is bound to be unpalatable, yet conformity to a fashion is not always proof of the soundness of a custom or an opinion. In these days, in common language, equality is too often taken to mean the same thing as similarity. Children, little girls and little boys, should by all means be taught alike in riding until they approach the age at which they are children no longer. But, there should really be a certain difference between suitable horsemanship for a young man, and suitable horsemanship for a girl or a lady.

It is not easy to describe this distinction. It is hardly to the point to say that a lady's riding should be characterized by grace, for elegance is no more to be desired in a man's style than it would be unreasonable to insist that a lady's riding should always be less strenuous than a man's; that depends upon the physique and the skill of the individual. Some active girls ride hard with ease, safety and propriety. Neither is it merely a matter of appropriate mounts; some girls are a match for decidedly rough horses, and some can keep mean horses in order better than can most men, and a very slim and ladylike young girl can be the very essence of graceful beauty astride a raw boned, if hand, flea bitten old gray hunter.

I think myself that a girl should not indulge in really violent riding prolonged for more than a few minutes, except in case of emergency or need. But a girl's horsemanship should be so developed that in case of necessity she could endure in rough riding as long as a man, and that she could handle a strain on her actual riding ability.

Dangers of Rough Riding.

Very severe exertion on horseback is dangerous. It is not in the list of safe amusements. Anybody, no matter how sound or how experienced, or how accomplished is liable to be injured in violent riding. A young lady, no matter how daring or how able, is somewhat more apt to be injured than is a young man, either by the sheer strain of the extreme exertion. In the second place, an injury to a girl may be followed by more unpleasant after-effects than in the case of injury to a man. Finally and chiefly, girls are too valuable to be risked that way.

I can state the case in no better way than to say that a girl who is equal in horsemanship to an accomplished man should be his equal in a feminine way, and not his rival in a masculine way. I can no more define what a girl should be than I can define what a man should be. It is a matter of degree, and of balance, but most people recognize either at sight.

Children are never too small to ride. They should be allowed to ride until they are old enough for bones, muscles and internal organs to have acquired strength by hardening use. I have seen a mere baby, certainly not past 2, sit up with superb poise and fearlessness on a big, proudly stepping pony led by a mounted attendant. I cannot remember back to the first time I mounted a horse myself. It is safer to let most persons realize to trust children out on horses. There seems to be a natural affinity between the right kind of children and the right kind of horse that takes the edge off the risks. I have known horses that were really a "handful" for most men to go gently and good naturedly for children. It might be well to mention another point in connection with this, although all horsemen know it and few laymen believe it. Children, or anybody else for that matter, are actually safer in these days of modern riding than on a horse of some spirit. When they are with a slug. A wide-awake horse sees a lot that escapes the notice of a dull one, and a gentle will do a good deal of looking out for a green rider, while the best of horsemen need not feel above taking a hint at times from such a horse.

A few years ago I had a fine dark gray filly, who was the possessor of the most beautiful long silver tail any horse ever owned. This filly was of high strung racing stock, and all of the temperamental of all of her an-

Teams of Four Nations May Play Polo Here

INTERNATIONAL polo with teams representing four nations is among the possibilities for the coming season at Meadow Brook, Rumson and Philadelphia. Lord Rockaville's English team has already accepted the invitation of the American Polo Association to take part in the tournaments at these fields, and it is confidently expected the Argentine team now in England will come over at the close of the British polo season, now close at hand. To make the tournaments here still more interesting and important Louis E. Stoddard and his associates of the Polo Association are now considering the suggestion of a special invitation to the Irish team from Dublin that went over to England last year and beat the pick of the British players on their own ground.

Western Horseman's Futurity for Syracuse

Fast Colts to Trot at State Fair.

Colt racing promises to be the feature of the Grand Circuit meeting at Syracuse, N. Y., which will be held at the State Fair next September. Forty two-year-olds have been entered in the sweepstakes for trotters of this age, and the race will be one of the most important of the season. Besides these races the Western Horseman's Futurity for three-year-old trotters will be decided at the meeting, with the winner of the season competing for \$7,000 stakes.

The marked success of the May Day Sweepstakes for two-year-old trotters at Lexington, Ky., led to an increase in the value of the Kentucky Futurity for three-year-olds to \$25,000 or more next year. Through its large purses and stakes for colts, the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders' Association is doing yeoman service under the administration of Ed A. Tipton to encourage the breeding of light harness horses.

Three three-year-old trotters by Lee Axworthy, 1:58.4, entered the 2:30 list at Lexington on May 17. Starting against time and driven by William Eaton, who recently escaped from Russia, the Pastime Stable's bay filly Muslin, out of Kalavla, by Kremlin, 2:07.4, gained a record of 2:18; Minuet, out of Gretchen B., a two-year-old colt by Bel- trutt, her time in 2:22.4, and H. M. Hanna's Merriment, out of Little Tide, 2:35, by Moko, made a mark of 2:25.4. Ned Hale, a two-year-old colt by Bel- trutt, out of Honeymoon, by John A. McKerron, 2:05.4, earned a record of 2:25.4.

Horse W. Murphy reports 100 entries in the nine early closing races for the Mineola meeting in September. The number is the largest in years at the Long Island track.

Trotting meetings will be held on Memorial Day at Monroe, N. Y.; Orangeburg, N. Y.; Freehold, N. J.; and Mineola, N. Y. The Nassau Driving Club will hold its first matinee at the Long Island track. The other meetings will be for purse races.

The Junior League of Amateur Driving Clubs will hold its annual intercity trotting meeting on the Charles River Speedway in Boston on July 11 to 13. New York, New York and Boston will be represented in the cup races.

Magnus Flaws, secretary of the Harness Horse Association, died on May 25 at his home in Chicago. He was instrumental in increasing the earning capacity of trotters campaigned in the West by inducing the fair associations there to give sweepstakes with added money instead of giving purses for harness races. He was 55 years old.

The eleventh annual race for the Horse Dealers' Sweepstakes on Wednesday next week in Philadelphia has drawn eleven fast trotters eligible to the 2:30 class, most of them owned in New York City. Mrs. James C. Macdonald, enters Audworthy, and E. M. Horton enters Goldie King. Other eligibles are Cigarette Boy, Transwaver, Raymaker, Elsie Laird, Dapper, John, W. W. May, Mrs. James C. Macdonald, and Little Moo. The Belmont stakes for 2:15 trotters has ten entries, and the Keystone stakes for 2:15 pacers twelve entries. All races will be decided on the same day at Belmont Driving Park.

Women's Horses Winners of Hunt Club Trophies

Women have won two of the most important steeplechases of the season at the hunt meetings this spring; not as riders, of course, but as owners of the successful horses. Ridden by Raymond Belmont, Mrs. James C. Macdonald's Oracle won second leg of the Maryland Hunt Cup at Bernard Fenwick's country place, near Cockeysville, Md., a short time ago over a course of four miles. The shortest of the necks separated the first and second horses. A big field started, and three or four were lapped at the finish. At Cockeysville the estate of Mrs. Stone near Warrenton, Va., on May 5, Mrs. Katherine Elkins Hitt's chestnut gelding Irish Laddie, ridden by Arthur Belmont, won the Virginia Gold Cup over a flagged course of four miles across country, beating Crawford Burton's good horse Stitta, winner of the Autumn Cup at Morristown last year, and several other entries. The winner of the Virginia Gold Cup is a three-quarter-bred horse that was among the beaten at the recent spring meeting at Belmont Park Terminal.

Centos was gathered together in her. She was a regular quicksilver of a horse. She was the most nervous creature I ever knew or knew of. She was timid beyond the ordinary, and it is possible to compare her. Anybody who would even attempt to ride or drive her was locally considered to be of doubtful sense. She had all the extreme sensitiveness and irritability that accompany such nervousness. To put it in up-to-date language, she was a "nut."

One morning I went to the pasture to get her, and perhaps it was possible to imagine my state of mind when I discovered a small visitor, a little boy, cheerfully having a new kind of ride by swinging on that long white tail while the mare went about the pasture. Yet this nervous animal, who winced and stamped at the slightest touch, who threw her ears flat at the least movement, her vicious, who could kick so swiftly that she could catch a spry young Leghorn every now and then as a St. Bernard dog, was as gentle as a St. Bernard dog, who that youngster. He seemed to be as safe playing around her legs as if she were the steadiest old horse to be found. He admitted that this was the first morning he had amused himself that way.

Normal, healthy children are naturally venturesome, and it may be this quality of fearlessness that enables them to get along so easily with bossy ponies and most horses and dogs. Of course, horses that are spirited but not gentle, are another matter. Whether under or over twenty-one, only able riders should attempt to handle such animals.

NEWS AND VIEWS OF HORSE SHOWS

J. C. Cook, Noted Rider and Trainer of Saddle Horses, Dies in Kentucky.

Kicked by a horse he was handling, J. C. Cook died at his home in Shelbyville, Ky., on May 13, just after his return from New York. He was one of the great riders and conditioners of saddle horses for the show ring and at the time of his death had four or five belonging to S. K. Jacobs in preparation for the Devon Horse Show, now going on at Philadelphia. He selected, developed and rode the chestnut mare My Delight for Mr. Jacobs last season, winning eight first prizes, including two championships and \$1,350 in money. The daughter of Mr. Cook was only a few weeks ago. Mr. Cook was about forty-five years old at the time of his death.

Winning hunters in the big stakes at Brooklyn this year will receive \$1,250 as first prize. This is more money than some winning trotters and runners receive at the leading meetings and is sure to give the Brooklyn events a big list of entries. One of the hunter classes is for lightweights and the other for heavyweights. There will be six prizes in each class, the lowest \$100. The two stakes for saddle horses will be \$2,000 each, the one for lightweights and the other for heavyweights. A three-year-old colt and the three for harness horses, \$1,000 each. One of these is for light harness horses or road horses.

Amber Crest, winner of the championship for saddle horses exceeding 15.3 hands at the recent Brooklyn Horse Show, finished sixth among the park saddle horses on the opening day at Devon, with Dark Flower, Plaza, Amethyst Lady, Cherokee Princess and Powerton all placed ahead of him.

George Chipchase, the veteran manager of Judge William H. Moore's stable, is exploiting the hackney as a saddle horse. Fairfield Rosetta, a three-year-old filly bred by Miss Amy E. du Pont, of Wilmington, Del., won the novice class for horses not exceeding 15 hands. She is by Haverford, out of Copper Rosette, by Copper King.

Entries will close on Thursday for the Westchester County Horse Show, to be held at White Plains on June 14-16. With more than 100 classes in this year's prize list and with few, if any, of the big stakes likely to be present, amateur exhibitors in the vicinity of New York should have a better chance than ever before to win at Gedney Farm.

The Tuxedo Horse Show, on Friday and Saturday, will have the largest list of entries since the war and a fine exhibition of saddle horses and hunters is promised. Several New York stable will go to Tuxedo by motor bus direct from the Devon Show, which ends on Tuesday.

Sterling Balm Grandam of Both Classic Winners

The two classic races run in England this season were made noteworthy by the fact that Sterling Balm, a daughter of Priar's Balsam and Yesterday, by Sterling, is the grandam of both winners. Her daughter, Princess Sterling, by Florist II, sire of William C. Whitney's Derby winner Volodyovski, produced St. Louis, winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, while another daughter, Queen Silver, by the Doncaster Cup winner, Queen's Birthday, is the dam of Silver Urn, winner of the One Thousand Guineas.

St. Louis is by Louvols, the son of Intrigue, that won the Two Thousand Guineas in 1913 and that was beaten a short half length for the Derby when the stakes went to Abouyer, after Cragside had been disqualified for a foul. Silver Urn's sire was Juggermatt, a son of St. Simon, whose first foals came in 1915.

Both winners were outsiders in the betting. St. Louis was unplaced in his one race as a two-year-old, while Silver Urn ran three times unplaced last season. Neither was deemed worthy of being included among the two-year-olds of 1921, whose relative merits were estimated at the close of the season in the annual free handicap, which is one of the institutions of the British turf. Golden Cord the filly that was assigned top weight as being the best two-year-old of the season, started favorite for the One Thousand Guineas, but weakened at the finish.

St. Louis is now a red hot favorite for the Derby to be run at Epsom on Wednesday. Photographs of the colt show a rather straight neck, a good head, a well set jaw, a long neck, light waist, long hip, long legged, blaze faced horse that might easily be mistaken for a gelding, yet he is a very good looking horse, as plain in appearance as Stromboli or Exterminator.

Seen and Heard in Horse Market

The next sale at Durland's, and perhaps the last one of the spring season, will take place on Wednesday evening, when Lawrence Fitzpatrick's polo ponies and hacks are to go under the hammer. Mr. Fitzpatrick, who is a horseman of the first order, has been busy all winter selecting and schooling these ponies in Wyoming, and he has had them at Westbury, L. I., long enough for them to become acclimated and finished, so that they are now fit and ready to play the game. They will be on exhibition at Durland's every day until they are sold.

Fias, Doerr & Carroll found buyers last week for something like 700 horses in the Monday and Thursday auctions at their popular old Twenty-fourth street mart. Mr. Fias says the sales this week have been increasing in volume and improving in prices in a way that seems to confirm the widely reported reaction in favor of the horse. Usually the last week in May brings a slackening of business, but this year it brought some of the busiest days of the season, with better buying than at the beginning of the month.

The Bergen Horse Company is rounding out a satisfactory spring season in the sale of commercial horses at auction in Jersey City. The weekly sales are to be continued all summer.

William Post & Son of East Williston, L. I., report a remarkable trade thus far this spring in high class polo ponies and hacks. They have handled:

M. B. Newcomb recently purchased some high class Kentucky saddle horses. Among them was the registered brown mare Alaire, a show prospect, by Richelieu, King out of American Princess, by Black Dart.

Waller & Potters will sell a good run of seasoned work horses on Tuesday at their Rutledge street auction mart in Brooklyn.

A. & M. Goldberg now have a large selection of fresh and seasoned work horses for private sale at their Division

HORSE BREEDING IN SHARP DECLINE

More Than 60 Per Cent. of Public Stallions Disappeared Between 1915 and 1921.

The decline of horse breeding since the outbreak of the great war is strikingly brought out in a bulletin just issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry at Washington. The booklet shows the number of stallions licensed for public service in 1915 and 1921 in eighteen States having stallion enrollment laws. These eighteen States have about two-thirds of all the horses in the United States and they embrace the great horse breeding sections of the Union. Fourteen of those in which the enrollment laws were in force in 1915 showed an aggregate of 46,121 stallions in that year. In 1921 there remained only 18,092 stallions in these States, 28,029, or more than 60 per cent., having disappeared. This is a tremendous falling off in six years, but it is not so large when registered stallions of recognized breeds are considered. There were 27,683 such stallions in the four States in 1915, while in 1921 the total was 13,947, the decrease being approximately 50 per cent.

While only 60 per cent. of all the stallions licensed in 1915 were registered horses of recognized breeds, the percentage last year was 77. Michigan has the highest percentage—91—while Missouri has the lowest, less than 52 per cent. of the licensed stallions in that State being registered horses.

In the decrease of stallions kept for service draft breeds have held their ground better than the lighter breeds. In 1915 there were 4.6 registered draft horses to one light horse, and in 1921 the ratio was 12.5 to 1 in favor of the big ones.

A good many horsemen will be inclined to take the Government statistics with a grain of salt when they see that Montana is credited with only two registered stallions other than drafters, and that Wyoming, Colorado and South Dakota have but seven each.

Wide Reaction Reported In Favor of the Horse

Stalls That Show How Wind Is Blowing.

Reaction in favor of the horse is reported from many quarters this spring and the swing back to old Dobbin seems to be gaining ground as the season advances. It extends to farm horses, heavy drafters, delivery chunks and nearly all types of light horses, excepting harness horses, according to investigations being made by the Horse Association of America.

Innumerable observers have remarked the large number of equestrians to be seen this spring at the riding clubs and schools, in Central Park and Prospect Park and on all the bridge paths about New York and other cities. Kentucky saddle horses made a higher average in the auctions at Durland's Riding Academy this year than in any previous season, yet they were not the best ones ever sold there.

A Lincoln Stadler, a recognized authority on correct attire for riding, hunting and polo, says there has never been such a season as the present one for clothes of the highest class, showing, he believes, that equestrian sports are in for a great revival all over the country.

Mad Hatter's Great Feat.

Mad Hatter's feat of running a mile in 1:35.5 with 125 pounds up, on the opening day at Belmont Park, has never been equaled by any horse in the spring of the year. Naturalist covered the distance in 1:36 with the same weight on his back and on the same track in 1920, and Lucullite took up 130 pounds and ran a mile in 1:38.6 there in 1915, but he had no weight on his back. In the month of September, when horses are better up to supreme efforts than in the month of May, Turfmen who believe weight and time are related, are pretty sure that the horse in a race horse will now rate Mad Hatter among the greatest of milers. In him and Man o' War, Fair Play very early in the season, two runners take the place of the two great milers. One hundred horses, wagons and harness from local Hudson and Essex county owners.

Two Shetland ponies. Broke for children.

E. C. BURDICK, Auctioneer.

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We have been commissioned to sell for E. W. Morche (truckman), 806 East 17th St., N. Y. city, who has been trucking for Keenig & Schusters, wholesale grocers, for years, they having sold out to Francis H. Leggett is the cause for Mr. Morche's absolute sale of his entire equipment consisting of the following:

30 Excellent Seasoned Horses, weighing from 1,300 to 1,700 lbs. 15 Sets Single and Double Harness. 16 Single and Double High Rack Covered Grocery Trucks, Blankets, Covers and all Equipment used in a first class trucking plant.

This equipment is known as first class in every respect; the horses are an exceptional lot of rugged workers in the best of condition.

Following the above, we will sell Pacer Mery Seville, Trial 1/2 Mile 7/4

Also from a prominent horse show exhibitor:

One Set Four in Hand Harness, New, One Set Four in Hand in good order and One Set Double Harness Made by Martin & Martin.

ABOUT 12 O'CLOCK.

By order of the Bankers Trust Co., executors of the estate of Annie B. Hannah, we will sell one Franklin Sedan, 1921 Model, Having Been Run Only 2,000 Miles, Practically New.

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Carloads of Farm Chunks, Wagon and Draught Horses

They range in weight from 1,200 to 1,600 lbs. each, are from 5 to 7 years old, and altogether as fine a lot as has been shipped to the market in some time. Every one of them thoroughly broken to harness and fully warranted or no sale, protected by our guarantee this should make them doubly attractive to those who desire horses for immediate use.

Announcement of Special Sale

In Our Sales Arena, Thursday, June 1st, at 11:30 A. M. 4 Peerless, and 3 Tons; 2 Alco 3 1/2 Tons; 2 Hurlburt, 2 Tons; 2 Garford, 3 1/2 ton and 1 Federal, 1 1/2 Ton.

The above mentioned trucks are in running condition and were in actual service of the American Railway Express Company up to Saturday. The bodies are Panel Top and Screen top, with curtains in good condition, they will positively be sold for the high dollar.

Our Written Guarantee Accompanies Every Warranted Horse and Permits of Trial up to Noon Wednesday. Entire Purchase Price is Refunded if Animal Proves Other Than as Represented.

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Wednesday, May 31st, 1922—12:30 P. M.

of all the Horses, Trucks, Harness and Dumpers—the property of B. GOODMAN, Bayonne, N. J., who is moving to Gloucester.

Thirty horses, weighing from 1,200 to 1,600 lbs. that are young and in the best of condition, being used every day in his contracting business. The chance of a lifetime to get a first class, seasoned horse at your own price.

Twenty-five sets Double Harness, extra good.

Five sets Single Harness.

Fifteen Dumpers in the best of condition.

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Three Trucks.

All Stable Utensils, Blankets, Truck Covers, Etc.

Ten horses consigned by a man who had a contract with a large coal concern, who is disposing of these horses because no coal coming in for delivery. Rugged lot of work horses, weighing from 1,400 to 1,600 lbs. All in good shape.

Five saddle horses, thoroughly broke.

Twenty-eight horses consigned by Dr. T. A. Bowen of Chariton, Iowa, matched pair and wagon horses.

One hundred horses, wagons and harness from local Hudson and Essex county owners.

Two Shetland ponies. Broke for children.

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WEDNESDAY, May 31st, 1922,

at 11 a. m.; twenty-two (22) horses, eleven (11) trucks, harness and stable utensils used in the trucking business of DECKER & SIEBERT. This sale is caused by the death of one of the partners. By order of:

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If you are in the market for a high class polo pony or an easy beginner's pony we can suit you. We also have a few very gentle hacks.

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NATURAL wood show wagon, like new; 15 riding saddles, saddles, like new. EMIL SHELLO, 521 W. 58th St.

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Mr. Fitzpatrick has had long experience in Polo Ponies, having trained and conditioned the ponies for the International Polo Matches of 1909 in England, 1911, 1912 and 1914 at Meadow Brook. He says of those he will sell: "These horses were shipped to New